

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 091156

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DRAFTED BY S/ S- O: JSNYDER

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APPROVED BY S/ S- O: JMEALUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO CITY FLASH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 091156

TOSEC 1

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, MX

SUBJ: SECRETARY' S LA VISIT: COLORADO RIVER SALINITY

REF: SNYDER- BREMER TELCON, MAY 12

1. PROPOSED STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY RE SALINITY
PROBLEM: " I WAS MOST PLEASED TO DELIVER TO PRESIDENT
ECHEVERRIA THIS MORNING, AT THE REQUEST OF PRESIDENT
NIXON, THE US PROPOSAL FOR A PERMANENT, DEFINITIVE AND
JUST SOLUTION TO THE COLORADO RIVER SALINITY PROBLEM.

2. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT WHEN THE PRESIDENTS MET IN
WASHINGTON IN JUNE OF LAST YEAR PRESIDENT NIXON OFFERED
TO ARRANGE AT ONCE FOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF WATER
DELIVERED TO MEXICO AND TO APPOINT A SPECIAL REPRESENTA-
TIVE TO RECOMMEND A DEFINITIVE SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM.
THE QUALITY OF MEXICO' S WATER WAS SUBSTANTIALLY IMPROVED,
AND MR. HERBERT BROWNELL, A FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL OF
THE UNITED STATES, WAS APPOINTED TH E PRESIDENT' S
SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE. PRESIDENT NIXON WAS NOW APPROVED
HIS RECOMMENDATIONS. THE PROPOSAL I DELIVERED TODAY TO
PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA IS BASED ON THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS.

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PAGE 02 STATE 091156

3. I UNDERSTAND THAT PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA WILL NOW WANT TO STUDY THE PROPOSAL AND PROBABLY DISCUSS IT FURTHER WITH US. MR. BROWNELL WOULD BE GLAD TO COME TO MEXICO CITY FOR THAT PURPOSE IF THAT SHOULD BE PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA'S WISH.

4. I AM CONFIDENT THAT ON THE BASIS OF THE US PROPOSAL THE TWO GOVERNMENTS CAN REACH EARLY AGREEMENT IN THIS COMPLEX PROBLEM WHICH HAS TOO LONG BEEN AN IRRITANT IN THEIR TRADITIONALLY EXCELLENT RELATIONS." END OF RELEASE. PORTER

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NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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